

POWER POINT NARRATION

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EPA AIR POLLUTION PUBLIC HEARING

Research Triangle Park, NC

- Photo #1 All of the tourism surveys by travel interests in North Carolina indicate that the main reason visitors come to the mountains is to see scenery, such as this view of Roan Mountain.
- #2 Here is a scene on the Blue Ridge Parkway near Linville Falls where air pollution haze is limiting the view.
- #3 Now look at the identical scene on a day when there is virtually no air pollution haze. Visitors can see the scenery, the reason they came to the mountains.
- #4 I like this view of the Charlotte skyline, but it is not my favorite view of that skyline.
- #5 My favorite view of the Charlotte skyline was made from 87 air miles away with my camera located on Grandfather Mountain. The problem is that air pollution haze prevents visibility this good except on one or two days per year.
- #6 The dead trees shown here are Red Spruce at the 5,000 foot elevation on Grandfather Mountain. The trees were killed by a subtropical forest pest that does not in anyone's memory survive the cold at 5,000 feet and higher in the North Carolina mountains. The pest is the Southern Pine Beetle, and it killed Red Spruce two winters ago on Mt. Mitchell, Roan Mountain, and Grandfather Mountain. I believe in Global Warming, and so does the Southern Pine Beetle.
- #7 Here we see what acid rain has done to the forest on top of Clingman's Dome, highest peak in the Great Smokies.
- #8 Mount Mitchell, highest mountain in eastern North America, looks great at a distance from an overlook on the Blue Ridge Parkway.
- #9 When we reach the top of Mount Mitchell, this is what we see. Canadian officials

told me, when I was Executive Producer of the PBS Special, "The Search For Clean Air" narrated by Walter Cronkite, that "You can show pictures of dead trees on top of tall mountains all you want, but nobody will listen unless you relate air pollution to human health."

- #10 Dr. Robert Bruck of N.C. State University did research on air pollution for over 20 years at Mount Mitchell. His most acidic reading came during rime ice, when clouds froze on trees. The rime ice had a PH reading of 2.1. Lemon juice is PH 2.5 and battery acid is PH 1.
- #11 Our three varieties of trout in the mountains, left to right: Brook Trout, Rainbow Trout, and Brown Trout, die when waters drop to PH 5.5.
- #12 Bob Blankenship, Manager of the Cherokee Indian Reservation Trout Farm, lost 40,000 pounds of trout in one fish kill when the waters dropped to PH4. He blames the kill on a nearby TVA coal fired power plant.
- #13 This scientist at the Great Smoky Mountains Research Station in Gatlinburg is holding a Poplar seedling raised in charcoal filtered air. At the right is a Poplar seedling of the same age raised in ambient Great Smoky Mountains National Park air.
- #14 Dr. Lance Kress is doing research on the effect of air pollution on Loblolly Pine at Duke University in Durham, at less than 1000 feet in elevation. He is holding a Loblolly seedling raised in Duke University, Durham County air.
- #15 Dr. Lance Kress holding a Loblolly seedling of the same age of the one in the previous photo, but this seedling was raised in charcoal filtered air. The effects of air pollution are not merely confined to North Carolina's mountains.





